

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P803854/WO/1	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/EP2003/009915	International filing date (day/month/year) 06 September 2003 (06.09.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 13 September 2002 (13.09.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B62D 65/00		
Applicant DAIMLERCHRYSLER AG		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 7 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I Basis of the report
- II Priority
- III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV Lack of unity of invention
- V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI Certain documents cited
- VII Certain defects in the international application
- VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 08 April 2004 (08.04.2004)	Date of completion of this report 03 December 2004 (03.12.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP2003/009915

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

 the international application as originally filed the description:pages 1-25, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____ the claims:pages 1-8, 26-28, as originally filed
pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____ the drawings:pages 1-4, 1-3, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____ the sequence listing part of the description:pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

 the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)). the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

 contained in the international application in written form. filed together with the international application in computer readable form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form. The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished. The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of: the description, pages _____ the claims, Nos. _____ the drawings, sheets/fig _____5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP 03/09915

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-8	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-8	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-8	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

1. Reference is made to the following document:

D1: EP 0 470 939 A1

2. The application relates to a method and associated device for mounting a plurality of attachments on a workpiece, especially on a vehicle body.

(a) The closest prior art is D1. Said document relates to a method for mounting the rear door and driver's door on a vehicle body. A sensor system permanently connected to the mounting tool is used to position a door relative to the body. The doors are mounted sequentially in that method.

(b) The features that render the application novel and inventive are constituted by the method defined in claim 1 and the associated device defined in claim 6, as a result of which a more precise and more uniform gap size between the two attachments and between the workpiece and the attachments is achieved using simpler means.

To this end, initially the first attachment is

aligned with the stationary second attachment, following which the two parts are simultaneously positioned on the workpiece (see point 3).

- (c) By this method two parts are positioned together on the workpiece, and an accumulation of positioning errors is avoided by their treatment as "one part". This improvement is achieved with simple means, because only one relative positioning is used for the two positioning steps.
- (d) The present claims 1 and 6 are novel over D1, and an inventive step is also assumed as a result of the stated advantages (see point c).
- (e) Since independent claims 1 and 6 are novel and inventive, dependent claims 2 to 5 and 7 to 10, which refer back to them, should also be considered novel and inventive.
- (f) The application relates to a method and associated device for mounting a plurality of attachments on a workpiece, especially on a vehicle body. The subject matter of the application is therefore industrially applicable.

3. The application does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 6, because claims 1 and 6 are not clear.

- (a) Regarding claim 1
Contrary to PCT Article 6, claim 1 is not supported by the description, since its scope goes beyond the scope substantiated by the description and the drawings. The reasons are as follows:

The description implies that the following features are essential for the definition of the invention (description: page 2, fourth paragraph to page 3, first paragraph):

- (1) A first attachment is positioned in a predetermined position (description: page 19, first paragraph).
- (2) A second attachment is precision-positioned relative to the first attachment by means of an iterative control process (description: page 19, first paragraph to second paragraph; figure 3).
- (3) The two attachments are then simultaneously precision-positioned relative to the workpiece by means of an iterative control process (description: page 22, second paragraph; figure 3).

Since independent claim 1 does not include these features, it does not satisfy the requirement of PCT Article 6 in conjunction with Rule 6.3(b) that every independent claim must contain all the technical features essential for the definition of the invention.

Furthermore, the phrase "measured values of the sensors" used in claim 1 is vague and unclear and leaves the reader uncertain as to the meaning of the technical feature in question. As a result, the subject matter of said claim is not clearly defined (PCT Article 6).

(b) Regarding claim 6

Claim 6 includes only the features of a general

robot system and not a robot system that is especially suitable for carrying out the method claimed in claim 1.

The handling system for the robot does not comprise a handling program which is stored in the memory of the handling system and which executes the steps of the method claimed in claim 1.

4. Contrary to the requirements of PCT Rule 5.1(a)(ii) neither the relevant prior art disclosed in document D1 nor this document has been indicated in the description.